SUMMARY

It is hoped that this study has enabled the reader to understand the Korean missionaries’ endeavours, activities, specific challenges, various problems, missions, co-operation, training, and sacrificial lifestyles.

The evangelization of Korea was planned by God’s providential work. By almost any measurement, the growth of Christianity in Korea during the last century is one of the most amazing stories of our time. The Korean church has rapidly changed significantly from being a mission field to a sending field, over a period of 100 years. This development of the Korean churches is not only the fruit of the ministry of Western missions but also a result of the passionate commitment of Korean pastors, mission leaders, and church members. This was one of the consequences of the co-operation between the Western missionaries and the Korean Churches as well as the sharing of their rich experience of world missions. A special feature of the Korean mission movement is that it involved not only various denominations but also the mission agencies of international mission organisations.

For the last three decades, over 250 Korean missionaries have committed themselves to the Great Commission of the Lord in Southern African countries. They may be classified into four categories, namely, those who work for mission organizations, Korean denominations, international mission agencies and those who are independent.
They have understood missions comprehensively with regards to God’s mission and church missions. They are involved in 17 types of ministry: children’s ministry, youth ministry, church planting ministry, leadership and discipleship, theological education, educational ministry, charity, ministry to Muslims, Korean church ministry, medical ministry, ministry to AIDS orphans, sport ministry, church partnership, church building projects, harbour ministry, job creation & development and language training.

In chapter 3, it was established that the Korean missionaries well understood the context of the country which they were serving. They overcame their monocultural background, and tried to adapt to and understand the Southern African culture. They are still in the process of doing so. The Korean missionary’s language acquisition was sound; nonetheless, when they worked with the local pastors or indigenous people, they faced difficulties relating to miscommunication and misunderstanding because they had not yet learned the language nor accepted the culture properly.

The most important personal problems the Korean missionaries encountered were those of family concerns, maintaining their spiritual life, health problems, financial concerns, frustration and unfulfilled ideals.

As reflected in chapter 4, the Korean missionaries reported very comprehensively on their ministry in the field. They proclaimed and preached the Good News by means of planting churches and training pastors, leaders and new believers to become faithful disciples of Jesus. They not only proclaimed the Gospel but also practised their faith.
The Korean missionaries knew that the five major challenges of their work were leadership development and discipleship training, AIDS/HIV ministry, Bible school, children’s ministry, and church planting (church building project).

They face seven personal challenges with regards to their attitude towards the people to whom they minister, namely, being, listening, learning, understanding, respect, communication, and the transformation of the lives of the local people in the field.

The Korean missionaries live as servant leaders, Bible teachers, coaches, mentors and spiritual fathers. These qualifications are required for their great mission in the context of the Southern African countries.


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APPENDIX

Questionnaires

1. Personal questions

   1. Name:

   2. Spouse’s name:

   3. Children:

   4. Mission organizations:

   5. Churches or denomination:

   6. How long have you been in the mission field?

   7. Where were you trained?

2. Your ministry in Southern Africa

   1. Where are you working?

   2. Describe your work (Preaching, evangelism, church planting, leadership development, needs of the people)-main focus?

   3. Do you work independently or in relationship with others?

   4. Is working with local churches problematic? Describe?

3. What were the main problems and difficulties you had to overcome? Explain?

   1. Understanding the context?

   2. Cultural adaptation?

   3. Language problems?

   4. Relationship problems?

   - How is your relationship with the national people?
     (Poor, Good, Excellent)
- How is your relationship with other Korean missionaries?
  (Poor, Good, Excellent)
- How is your relationship with local pastors?
  (Poor, Good, Excellent)

5. Did the circumstances in Southern Africa correspond with your expectations?

6. How do you handle the expectations of the local people?

7. How do you handle the expectations of the Korean churches?
   Explain your answer?

8. Name the five greatest challenges the churches/mission must face in Southern Africa?

4. The missionary and his family
   1. What are the most important personal problems?
   2. Which are the most important problems that missionaries face? Give examples?
      - Spiritual exhaustion?
      - Too little time for prayer?
      - Lack of training?
      - Financial problems?
      - Family problems?
      - Health problems?
      - Frustration, little sense of fulfillment?

5. Training
   - Where did you receive your training?
   - How important is training in the local context?
   - What are the possibilities for continued training?

6. What were your best experiences?

   What were your worst experiences?

7. Do Koreans have specific contributions to make in the mission field?
8. Is the Korean style different from others?

Questionnaires/Interview

I, Kyung Hwan OH, am a missionary in South Africa with GMS/SIM. I have worked at Africa Evangelical Church (AEC) since 2000. I am studying for a Ph.D in Missiology with Prof. PGJ Meiring at the University of Pretoria; the title is “Korean Missionaries in Southern Africa. A discussion and evaluation of Korean missionary activity in Southern Africa, 1980-2006”.

I need information about the Korean missionaries from you. Would you write your answer to the following questions? Your response will contribute to my research.

1. Personal information
   Name:
   Contact Number:
   Position:

2. What is an advantage of the Korean missionary’s activity in the mission field?

3. What is a disadvantage in the ministry of the Korean missionaries?

4. What kind of ministry do you expect missionaries to be involved in, in your area? (Examples: Church planting, Evangelism, Children’s ministry, youth ministry, Discipleship Training/Leadership development, Charitable ministry, Bible School etc.)

5. What kind of ministry don’t you expect missionaries to be involved in, in your area?
(Examples: Church planting, Evangelism, Children’s ministry, youth ministry, Disciple Training/Leadership development, Charitable ministry, Bible School, etc.)